Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of compensating for an inoperative nozzle in a bi-lithic printhead, the bi-lithic printhead including a plurality of sets of nozzles for printing a corresponding plurality of channels of dot data, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) rendering compressed pages to form a bi-level layer for a given print line intended for the bi-lithic printhead;

(b) expanding the compressed bi-level layer;

(c) compositing the bi-level layer to produce bi-level dots;

(d) determining which combination of one or more available operative nozzles near the inoperative nozzle will minimise perceived error in an image that the dot data forms part of, the determination being performed on the basis of a color model;

(e) mapping the dot data intended for the inoperative nozzle to that combination of one or more operative nozzles from the same set; and,

(f) passing resultant bi-level channel dot data to the bi-lithic printhead.

~~(a) mapping dot data intended for the inoperative nozzle into one or more operative nozzles of the printhead.~~

2. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 1, ~~wherein step (a) includes the substep of~~ including mapping the dot data intended for the inoperative nozzle into a nozzle that will print a dot on print media close to a position at which the inoperative nozzle would have printed a dot had it been operative.

3. (Currently amended) ~~A~~The method according to claim 1, ~~wherein step (a) includes the substep of~~ including mapping the dot data intended for the inoperative nozzle into a nozzle that will print a dot on print media immediately adjacent a position at which the inoperative nozzle would have printed a dot had it been operative.

4. (Currently amended) ~~A~~The method according to 1, ~~wherein step (a) includes~~ including the substeps of: (i) determining one or more operative nozzles capable of printing a dot on print media close to a position at which the inoperative nozzle would have printed a dot had it

been operative; and (ii) mapping the dot data from the inoperative nozzle to an operative nozzle determined in substep (i).

5. (Currently amended) ~~A~~The method according to claim 4, wherein, in the event more than one operative nozzle is determined in substep (i), the dot data is remapped to one of the operative nozzles that will print a dot on print media closest to that which would have been printed by the inoperative nozzle.

6. (Currently amended) ~~A~~The method according to claim 5, wherein, during successive firings of the printhead, the dot data is remapped alternately to operative nozzles that will print a dot on print media either side of that which would have been printed by the inoperative nozzle.

7. (Currently amended) ~~A~~The method according to claim 5, wherein, during successive firings of the printhead, the dot data is remapped randomly, pseudo-randomly, or arbitrarily to operative nozzles that will print a dot on print media either side of that which would have been printed by the inoperative nozzle.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently amended) ~~A~~The method according to claim ~~8~~1, ~~wherein step (a) includes the substep of~~ including mapping the dot data into one or more operative nozzles that will print a dot on print media close to a position at which the inoperative nozzle would have printed a dot had it been operative.

10. (Currently amended) ~~A~~The method according to claim ~~8~~1, ~~wherein step (a) includes the substep of~~ including mapping the dot data intended for the inoperative nozzle into one or more operative nozzles including at least one nozzle from a different one of the sets.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently amended) ~~A~~The method according to claim 1~~1~~, wherein the inoperative nozzle is associated with a black print channel, and wherein ~~step (a)~~ the method includes remapping the dot data intended for the inoperative nozzle into a plurality of operative

nozzles in other color channels to produce a process black output at or adjacent a location on print media where the inoperative nozzle would have deposited a droplet of a black printing substance in accordance with the dot data.

13. (Currently amended) ~~A~~The method according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of dot data intended for a corresponding plurality of inoperative nozzles are mapped to operative nozzles.

14. (Original) A printer controller configured to implement the method of claim 1.

15. (Currently amended) A printer controller configured to implement the method of claim 1 to a bi-lithic printhead comprising a plurality of the nozzles.